TOPOLOGY PROPAGATION IN A DISTRIBUTED
COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT WITH NO TOPOLOGY
MESSAGE TRAFFIC IN STEADY STATE

Abstract of the Disclosure

5   A topology propagation facility is provided for
maintaining a common network topology database at different
nodes in a distributed computing environment. The facility
generates no message traffic when the distributed computing
environment is in steady state. This is accomplished by
10   discontinuing sending of group connectivity messages during
a time period of no topology change within the distributed
environment. Sending of group connectivity messages is
reinitiated from at least one group leader upon
identification by the group leader of at least one topology
15   change within the distributed computing environment. Group
connectivity messages are forwarded from one group of nodes
on a first network to another group of nodes on a second
network using a node common to both groups of nodes. The
networks of the distributed computing environment can
20   comprise heterogenous networks such that the topology
propagation facility presented facilitates interoperability
of the networks.